No.

12

Again!!

アゲイン!!

Mitsurou Kubo

Again!!

アゲイン!!

Mitsurou Kubo

No. 12

contents

Chapter 125 On Your Mark 003

Chapter 126 Run! 015

Chapter 127 Hello From The Bottom of Your Lungs 025

Chapter 128 Happy to Be a Bunny? 039

Chapter 129 Came a Long Way?! 055

Chapter 130 Nine Years Later 067

Chapter 131 Alone Again 079

Chapter 132 Stand By You 093

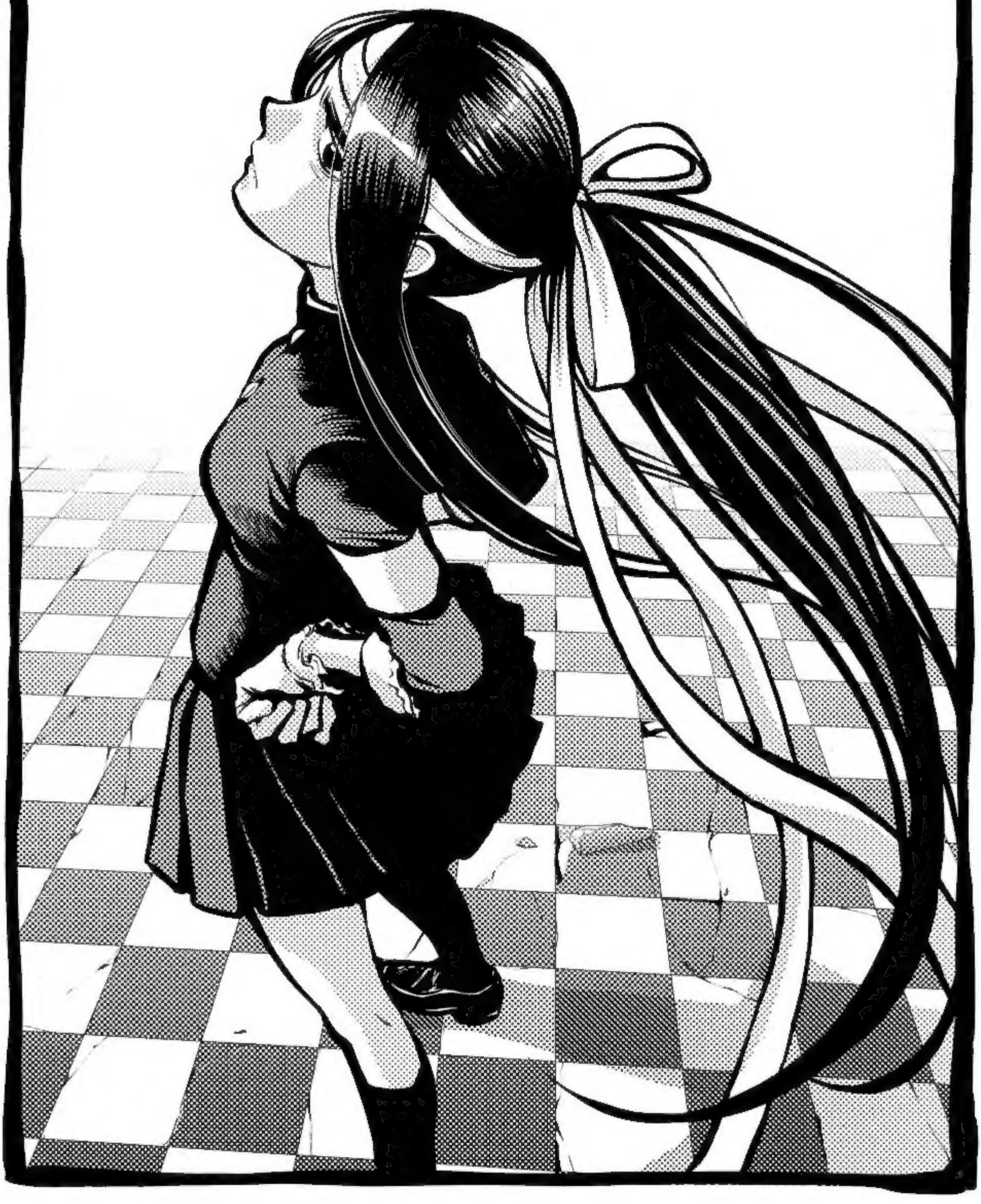
Chapter 133 Awkward/Other Side 107

Chapter 134 A Simple Cheer 123

Chapter 135 Resurrection of the Blond Wolf 137

Chapter 136 Screw a Do-Over! 153

125. ON YOUR MARK



SO, SUM-MER-HIKO...

YOU MEAN TO TELL US YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT IN YOUR COLLEGE OUENDAN, SO YOU RAN AWAY...

...ONLY TO COME BACK TO YOUR OLD HIGH SCHOOL AND TRICK ALL OF US?

KABOSU MARATHON

TICKET CENTER

KABOSU MARATHON

KABOSU

KA...

I HAVEN'T TRICKED ANYONE.

IT WAS ALUMNI FROM OUR HIGH SCHOOL, AFTER ALL, WHO ASKED ME TO CHEER AT THE KABOSU CITY MARATHON.

AND MY COLLEGE'S OUENDAN JUST WASN'T COOL ENOUGH TO BE A GOOD FIT FOR ME.

I HAD NO IDEA MY SENPAI WOULD CHASE ME ALL THE WAY HERE.

THEY MUST REALLY NEED ME.

HONESTLY, I'M FLATTERED.

I HAD NO IDEA HOW HARD YOU HAD IT!

SUM-MER-HIKO-SENPAI! I'M SORRY!

MUMBLE ... MUMBLE ...

I DIDN'T RUN AWAY. I DIDN'T RUN AWAY...

MUMBLE ... MUMBLE ...

I'M SORRY, SUMMERHIKO! I DIDN'T KNOW BEING SO POSITIVE WAS THE ONLY THING HOLDING YOU TOGETHER!

ALL RIGHT, I GET IT!

KABOSU CITY MARATHON

NO, HE'S BEEN THAT WAY SINCE HIGH SCHOOL.

IS THAT WHAT COLLEGE DOES TO A PERSON?

SHAKE SHAKE

I BET MY SENPAI WILL TREAT ME BETTER AFTER THIS, TOO.

YEAH ...

SHAKE SHAKE

NOT TO WORRY!

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LOVE US.

SURE-LY.

HEY, IMA-MURA!

WITH YOUR COLLEGE SENPAI HERE...

...THINGS HAVE GOTTEN KIIIND OF AWK-WARD.

CHATTER CHATTER

SUM-MER-HIKO ...

CHATTER

IT SORT OF SUCKS. OUR CLUB SPONSOR TOLD US WE HAD TO OUT OF NOWHERE.

THE WHOLE BASEBALL TEAM IS RUNNING IN THE 5K.

ANAGH...

IS THE OUENDAN GONNA RUN, TOO?

KANA I DON'T FEEL LIKE RUNNING..

ANAN

I WAS GONNA ASK YOU THE SAME THING!

SUZU-KI?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

KANAN

WE'RE JUST HERE TO CHEER.

NOPE.

DO I LOOK THAT WEIRD IN THIS THING?

MARATHON

KABOSU CITY

OOMPH ...

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA RUN IN COS-TUME.

HUH?

THIS SEEMS A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM HOW YOU CHEER FOR US...

YOU'LL FIT RIGHT IN DRESSED LIKE THAT!

THE KABOSU CITY MARA-THON'S PRETTY LAID BACK. LOTS OF RUNNERS WEAR COSTUMES.

OH, NO WAY. I LIKE IT!

O-

OSU.

SO SHOW US SOME-THING FUN.

THIS WHOLE THING IS LIKE A BIG FESTIVAL,

LIKE LAST TIME.

See ya later!

WELL, BYE!

AND HERE I THOUGHT THE MARATHON WAS GOING TO BE SOMETHING EVERYONE SUFFERED THROUGH.

OH...

MARATHON

WE'RE HERE TO CHEER.

SO LET'S MAKE IT FUN. OTHERWISE,

WHAT'S THE POINT?

ALL RIGHT.

ALL TEAMS, REPORT TO YOUR ASSIGNED LOCATIONS.

FUCK

iKO

AND WE'RE GONNA SHOW EVERYONE THE STRENGTH OF OUR HEARTS!

WE'RE THE KABOSU MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL QUENDAN,

IT LOOKS LIKE THE OUENDAN IS SELLING SOME!

CHATTER

KANAN OUENDAN'S HOMEMADE MELON BREAD

IT'S DELICIOUS!!

CHATTER

OH! MOM,

DO YOU WANT SOME MELON BREAD?

CHATTER

HE CAN'T HIDE SOMETHING LIKE THIS FROM ME.

CHATTER

I WONDER WHERE KIN-CHAN IS!

CHATTER

ATTENTION.

THE MARATHON WILL BE STARTING SHORTLY.

KABOSU GIFT

ALL RUNNERS, PLEASE TAKE YOUR POSITIONS.

CHATTER

OH, MY.

A RABBIT, HUH?

HEY!

LET'S HEAD OVER THERE, MOM.

THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE! HEHEHE!

MARATHON

TODAY,

WE'RE JOINED BY A SPECIAL GUEST, THE MASCOT OF THE TOZAI BLACK LIONS...

IT'S BL-KUN! HE'LL BE RUNNING IN THE 5K!

HE'S THE FASTEST BASEBALL MASCOT IN THE LEAGUE, SO DON'T MISS IT!

WOOOO

EEEK! ♥ HE'S SO COOL!

CAN I TAKE A PIC-TURE?

KAAH

CITY

RATHON

RAAH

OVER HERE, BL-KUN! ♥

THIS DOES SEEM BAD.

DAMN IT...

NO ONE'S GONNA NOTICE US WITH A MAJOR-LEAGUE MASCOT LIKE HIM HERE.

Fuck!!

KABOSU CITY

CHATTER.

CHATTER.

HEY, CHAN-KUMA.

WHAT IS IT, MAMURA-KUN?

LET'S MAKE THINGS INTEREST-ING.

BAANG!

GO!

KABOSU CITY

Again!!

アゲイン!!

126. RUN!

RAAAAAHH

KABOSU CITY MARATHON

YOMIKIRI

THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME SEEING A MARATHON IN PERSON, RIGHT?

WOW! COME ON, MOM! WAVE YOUR FLAG!

WAVE

WAVE

TUP TUP TUP

RAAAAAAAAH

KABOSU MARATHON

KABOSU MARATHON

KABOSU MARATHON

DUM DUM DUM

HMM?

KABOSU CITY

WAVE

WAVE

GO, DAD!

YOU CAN DO IT!

ドドド

BAOM
HOORAY!
BAOM
HOORAY!
THMP
THMP
THMP
THMP
THMP
OUR CHEERS ARE GET-TING DROWNED OUT.
UGH, IT'S NOISIER THAN I EX-PECT-ED...

MAYBE HE'S CHEERING AT A DIFFERENT SPOT ALONG THE TRACK.

LET'S SEE THE HALF-MARATHON RUNNERS ARE STARTING NOW

OH, AND THE 5K RUNNERS ARE GOING TO START A LITTLE LATER

BUT WHERE'S KIN-CHAN?

OH! THERE'S THE OUENDAN.

HUH THAT'S WEIRD

KEEP GOING!

HAAH

RAAAH

RAAAH

HAAH

HUUUUSHL....

KABORU CITY MARATHON

WATER

STATION

IT'LL TAKE THEM A WHILE TO MAKE IT HERE, THOUGH.

THEY SHOULD BE STARTING ABOUT NOW.

UM, CAPTAIN USAMI ...

...

I'M BOOORED!

WIGGLE ね

WIGGLE ね

WHAT IS IT, SHI-BATA?

WHAA AAAT?!

FOR REAL?!

SUMMERHIKO-SENPAI WON'T STOP ASKING ME OUT, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

GAAAAH!

HE KEEPS BUGGING ME ABOUT GIVING HIM MY NUMBER, TOO.

YEAH, I ALWAYS KNEW HE WAS A CREEP!

BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPEN-ED EARLIER ...

I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU GUYS ABOUT IT AFTER WE WERE DONE CHEERING,

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D SINK TO HITTING ON HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS JUST 'CAUSE NO ONE HIS AGE WANTS ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM.

I'M BEYOND DISAP-POINTED.

WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM, ANYWAY?

ROOMS

?!

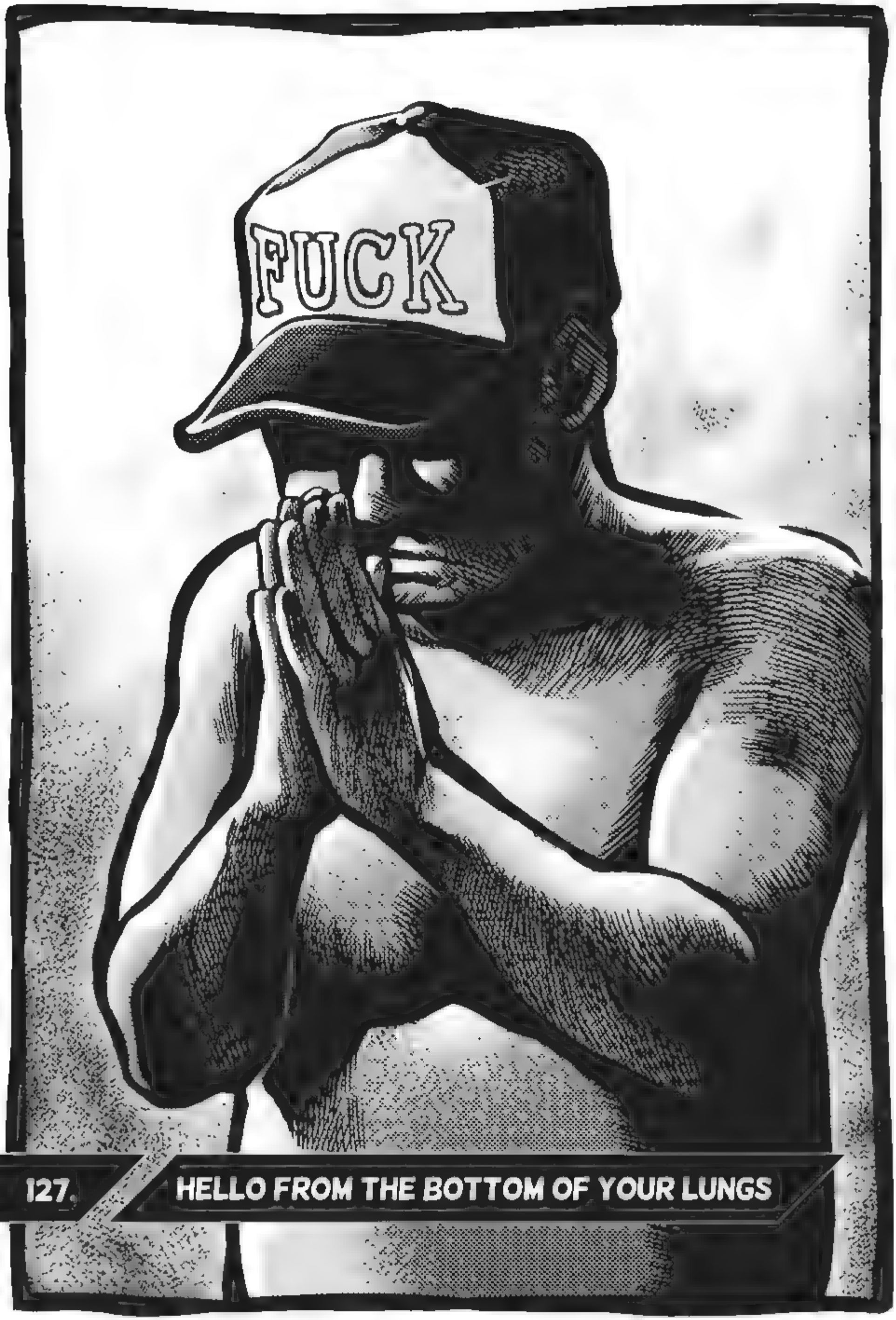
WE'RE NOT HERE TO HANG OUT, SO YOU BETTER DO YOUR PART WHEN THE RUNNERS GET HERE!

HEY, YOU GIRLS!

FLUUUSH

I GUESS OUR OUTFITS DON'T EXACTLY INSPIRE CONFIDENCE ...

OH, WE WILL! WE TAKE CHEERING VERY SERIOUSLY!



127. HELLO FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR LUNGS

RA
A
A
A
A
AH

HUUUSH

THEY'LL PROBABLY BE HERE IN ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES.

THE SK SHOULD BE STARTING ABOUT NOW.

FUCK

I KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.

...

WE'LL HAVE TO GIVE THEM A WARM WELCOME.

HEH HEH HEH.

EVERY-ONE WILL GET A SIP OF MY PIYARI SWEAT
STAAADE.

THAT'S CALLED "BEING AFRAID."
BUT I'LL DIE IF WE SCREW THIS UP!
I'M NOT AFRAID!
WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?!
HIP
FWISH
GAH!

THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SAY TO YOU, SUGA-SENPAI.

I DON'T THINK YOU OR OKA-SENPAI TAKE THE OUENDAN SERIOUSLY AT ALL.

YOU MAKE FUN OF SUMMER-HIKO-SENPAI BEHIND HIS BACK 'CAUSE HE'S STRICT...

...BUT WHEN THE OUENDAN ALMOST FELL APART ON YOUR WATCH, YOU DIDN'T LIFT A FINGER.

CAPTAIN USAMI WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT TO PRESERVE THE OUENDAN'S TRADITIONS. A WOMAN! DON'T YOU HAVE ANY PRIDE AS A MAN?

VICTORY

BUT THAT WAS—

IT WAS MY FAULT!

FWISH

IT WAS ALL...

...MY FAULT.

CAPTAIN MAEDA...

SUMMER-HIKO AND THE OTHER CAPTAINS BEFORE ME NEVER COMPROMISED OUR STANDARDS.

THE CLUB CULTURE WAS MORE HARDCORE BACK THEN, SO MOST STUDENTS FEARED US.

A LOT OF MEMBERS WERE INTIMIDATED INTO JOINING, AND THE TRAINING WAS SO HARD ON THEM THAT SOME STARTED REFUSING TO COME TO SCHOOL.

THERE AREN'T MANY TRADITIONAL OUENDAN LEFT IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

FUCK

I WAS ONE OF THE ONES FORCED TO JOIN DURING THAT DARK TIME.

I WANTED THE OUENDAN TO BE A HAPPY PLACE WHERE PEOPLE WERE FREE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

...THINGS WERE GONNA BE DIFFERENT.

I THOUGHT, WHEN I WAS CAPTAIN...

THEN,

USAMI, OKA, AND RAKKI SUGA JOINED.

THE MEMBERS SUMMERHIKO INTIMIDATED INTO JOINING STARTED SLACKING THE MOMENT I WAS CAPTAIN.

AND USAMI, WITH ALL HER MOTIVATION, DIDN'T FIT IN AT ALL.

BUT I DIDN'T EVEN SEE THE ISSUE.

I THOUGHT OKA AND RAKKI SUGA AND USAMI SHOULD JUST CHEER IN THEIR OWN WAY.

AND I THOUGHT, AS CAPTAIN, I SHOULD DO SOMETHING INTERESTING TO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE TEAM.

BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.

WHAT DID YOU DO?

WAGH!

!!

FWIP

THAT CAME AS A SHOCK.

I GOT SCOLDED FOR SULLYING THE LEGACY OF THE OUENDAN, AND ULTIMATELY WASN'T ALLOWED TO CHEER FOR OUR BASEBALL TEAM.

...BUT THE PARENTS AND ALUMNI HATED IT.

I WAS READY TO PUT MY HEART AND SOUL INTO THE SUMMER BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP, SO I DID MY HAIR LIKE THIS...

WHAT'S THE DEAL?

THAT'S WHEN I REAL-IZED...

SOMEONE WHO JUST WANTS TO HAVE FUN AND BE FREE ISN'T QUALIFIED TO CHEER FOR ANYONE.

DON'T GIVE UP!!

PRETTY MUCH FOREVER.

I'M JUST GOING TO LIVE OUT THE REST OF MY LIFE GIVING UP ON EVERY-THING I TRY.

...

LOOK AT ME.

THAT WASN'T THE FIRST THING I'D GIVEN UP ON.

DON'T GIVE UP!!

I DIDN'T GET INTO COLLEGE.

AND I DON'T FEEL LIKE FINDING A CAREER.

HEH

YOU EVEN DID YOUR HAIR LIKE THAT.

YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU'VE GIVEN UP ON CHEER-ING.

BUT LOOK HOW YOU'RE DRESSED.

I COULDN'T CHEER HOW I WANTED TO BACK THEN...

...BUT LET ME MAKE UP FOR THAT NOW.

I WANT TO DO THINGS OVER FROM WHERE I MESSED UP.

BECAUSE HONESTLY,

I REALLY WANTED TO SEE IT.

I WISH YOU COULD'VE CHEERED LIKE THAT LAST YEAR.

CAP-TAIN MAEDA.

FWISH

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE

SNIFFLE

RAKKI SUGA...

?!

FOLLOW ME

VRRRRR

THE RUNNERS ARE HERE!

HEH HEH.

ぎゅっ
SHUP

HERE'S YOUR DO-OVER.

KANAN QUENDAN

VICTORY

DON'T GIVE UP!!

WE'RE NOT JUST HERE TO CHEER. WE'RE HERE TO COMPETE!

LET'S SHOW THEM ALL THAT WE'RE READY TO GO HARDER THAN ANYONE. THAT'S HOW WE WIN THIS.

Again!!

アゲイン!!

128. HAPPY TO BE A BUNNY?

RUNNERS, PLEASE REPORT TO THE STARTING POINT.

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

THE 5K WILL BE STARTING SHORTLY.

IMAMURA...

HEY...

CHATTER

CHATTER...

CHATTER

5km STARTING POINT

CHATTER

...

FSSH

FSSH

I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST HERE TO CHEER?

FSSH

HUP

HUP HUP

STRIPED BUNNY!

STRIPED BUNNY!

YEAH, WE'LL SHOW BL-KUN!

HEY, STRIPED BUNNY! LET'S RUN TO-GETHER!

CLENCH!!

NOOO

I WANT HIM TO EXPRESS HIMSELF MORE FREELY!

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU GET TO SEE IMAMURA-KUN SO FULL OF LIFE!

THAT'S THE IDEA...! WE'RE TRYING TO CHEER IN FUN NEW WAYS AT THE CITY MARATHON.

WOOO

WOOO

GOD, HE'S NOT EVEN LISTEN-ING.

QUIT PLAYING AROUND AND GET OUT OF THE WAY!

CHATTER...

THE RACE IS START-ING SOON!

HEY, RABBIT!

...

BLAZOOSH

I'M WOR-RIED ...

WHAT?

WHAT DID I DO?!

STOP LOOKING AT ME!

IMAMURA'S USUALLY SO ANXIOUS ABOUT PEOPLE NOTICING HIM, BUT SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT TODAY.

THIS ISN'T NORMAL ...

THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IGNORING THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU AND JUST NOT NOTICING THEM, THOUGH...

GO!

KABO

KIKAITOSU CITY START

KABOOOM

CLAT

CLAT

CLAT

CLAT

THERE HE IS!

EEEKKK!♥

GO, GO!

YOU'RE AMAZING, BL-KUN!

YOU'RE SO COOL, BL-KUN!

DAMN IT...!

HE'S SO FAST, EVEN IN THAT COS-TUME.

RIGHT, MOM?

GOOD LUCK!

FWISH

SHOO

HMM?

SHOO

SHOO

CLAT

CLAT

IMO-MUKA!

CHAN-KUMA!

HUH?

UEDAN!

WHY ARE YOU RUNNING ?!

GAA

GAA

GAA

WHEEE

PANT

PANT

WHEEE

PANT

WHEEZE

PANT

IMA-MURA!

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FINISH THE RACE AT THAT PACE!

IMA-MURA!

I KNEW CHEERING IN A FUN WAY WAS THE RIGHT IDEA!

THEY'RE ALL SO HAPPY!

LOOK AT THEM!

WOOOO

WOOOO

THEY CAUGHT UP WITH BL-KUN!

GO, GO!

WOOOO

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

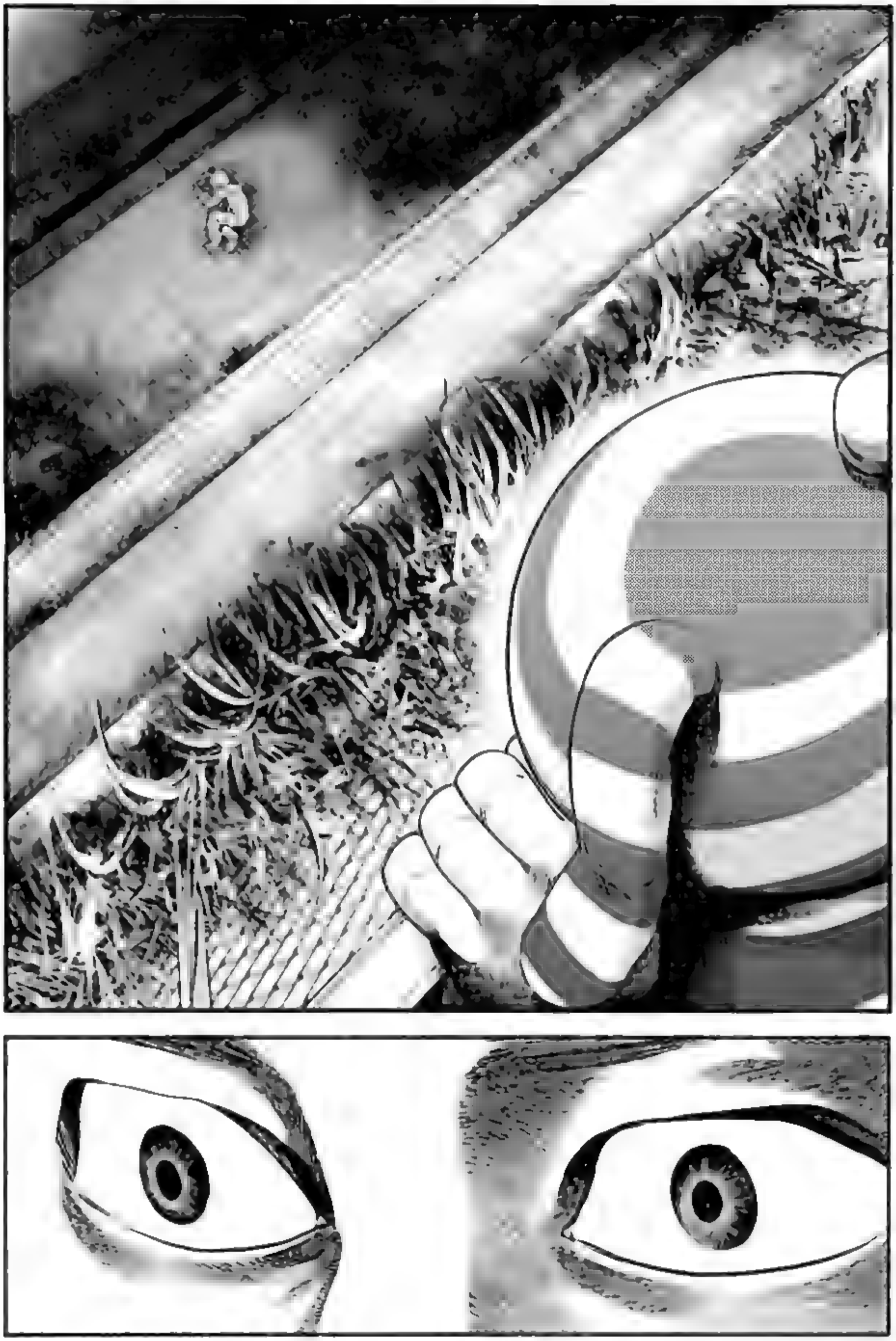
WHEEEEE

PANT

WHEEEEE

PANT

LEAP!!
WHAT-EVER IT TAKES!
FOR REAL?!
WE CAN TAKE A SHORTCUT THIS WAY!
IMA-MURA-KUN!
HE'S NOT A BASE-
GOD
FOR NOTHING
PANT
WHEEZE
ARE YOU OKAY?
THUD
WHOA!



WHOOOOOSH

WHAT'S THE MATTER, CAPTAIN?

THE RUNNERS ARE GONNA BE HERE SOON.

I CAN HEAR EVERY-ONE CHEER-ING.

300m TO NEXT CHECK-POINT

...BUT I CAN HEAR FOOT-STEPS.

THEY SOUND SO FAR OFF...!!

I FEEL...

...LIKE IT'S BEEN YEARS...

...AND I'VE BEEN HERE LISTENING TO THEM THE WHOLE TIME...

...BUT I CAN'T HEAR MY FOOT-STEPS.

I DON'T WANT TO DIE.

IMA-MURA.

IMA-MURA ...

IMA-MURAAA!

BIP

BIP

BIP

DRONE

DRONE

Again!!

アゲイン!!

129. CAME A LONG WAY?!

Drum
BUUU
SMASH
AM I ?
WHERE

I'VE COME BACK TO THREE YEARS IN THE FUTURE, BEFORE THE DO-OVER!

I GET IT!

PANG

PANG

LEAP!

...

MY HAIR'S LONG.

WHOA!

WEIRD!

TWANG

I WAS CHEERING AT THE CITY MARATHON ...

AND I FELL OFF A LEDGE TRYING TO TAKE A SHORT...

... CUT?

AAAAAGH!

I KNOW HOW THIS WORKS.

AND OF COURSE, I'LL GO RIGHT BACK NEXT TIME I FALL FROM UP HIGH.

HUH?

SOME-HOW, IT FEELS FAMIL-

WHERE IS THIS?

IT WAS A NEW HOUSE?

HUUUUSH

HEEEY!

ANY-BODY HOME?

AHHH
EEKSSSSHHH

IT'S JUST *GONE!*

MY HOUSE IS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!

WHAT?!

WHAT?!

FWISH

THIS IS TOO MUCH!

AND THERE, TOO!

OH, GOD! THEY'RE BUILDING APARTMENTS OVER THERE?

IT WASN'T LIKE THIS BEFORE THE DO-OVER!

WHAT HAPPENED IN THREE YEARS?!

TUNK

TUNK

TUNK

TUNK

YOU OLD HAG!

YOU CAN'T JUST IGNORE ME!

HEY!

ARF

ARF

MODEL HOUSES ON DISPLAY

DO YOU KNOW IF THE IMAMURA FAMILY STILL LIVES AROUND HERE?

HEY, LADY!

Time for your walk

FIGURES IT'D BE THAT ONE.

WHEEZE PANT

HEY, IT'S GRADUATION DAY!

WHEEZE PANT

CHATTER

CHATTER

I DON'T RECOGNIZE ANYONE, THOUGH.

HUH?

GLANCE

GLANCE

CHATTER

CHATTER

CHATTER

SAITAMA PREFECTURE KABUSU MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION CEREMONY

GUESS I'LL CHECK OUT THE SCHOOL.

TYPICAL. THE OLD LADIES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD NEVER PAID ATTENTION TO ME.

DAMN IT!

DASH

CLAT

CLAT

HOW'S THE OUEN-DAN?

WHAT ABOUT THE WEST BUILDING?

...ON ANY OF THESE LOCKERS.

MY NAME ISN'T...

BAM

DO NOT ENTER

BY NO MEANS ARE THESE PROSPEROUS TIMES, BUT I STILL WANT ALL OF YOU TO SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND TAKE FLIGHT!

IN-DEED. THIS VERY YEAR

WE HAVE LESS THAN HALF THE STUDENTS WE DID JUST TEN YEARS AGO, AND IT'S NOW BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE OUR CAMPUS WAS REDUCED IN SIZE AND OLD FIXTURES LIKE THE WEST BUILDING WERE TORN DOWN.

BOTH NATIONALLY AND LOCAL-LY, WE CONTINUE TO EXPER-IENCE A DECLINE IN POPULATION.

OUR TOWN AND THE PEOPLE IN IT WILL CHANGE AT LIGHTNING SPEED!

JAPAN WILL HOST THE 2020 OLYMPICS!

SO, GRADU-ATES...

WHEN I FELL...

IT'S BEEN...

...NINE YEARS?

WHAT?!

...WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

THIS HAS GONE WAY BEYOND A DO-OVER!

AND THE OTHERS...

WHERE...

...COULD THEY BE?

NEXT...

PERFORMED BY OUR GUESTS, THE DRUM BEAT OUENDAN, WHICH WAS FORMED BY ALUMNI OF KABOSU MINAMI!

A CHEER FOR OUR GRAD-UATES!

WHAT...?

CAPTAIN TAWARAAA!

ABOUT HOW THEY WERE FORMED NINE YEARS AGO, RIGHT?

I DID!

DID YOU SEE THEM ON TV THE OTHER DAY?

THAT DOCU-MENTARY MOVED ME TO TEARS!

WOOEEE

YEAH. IT JUST WASN'T THE SAME AFTER OUR SCHOOL OUENDAN FELL APART.

THESE CEREMONIES HAVE GOTTEN MORE EXCITING SINCE WE STARTED INVITING THEM EVERY YEAR, HUH?

...AND A LOT OF THOSE ALUMNI HAVE ENDED UP FAMOUS.

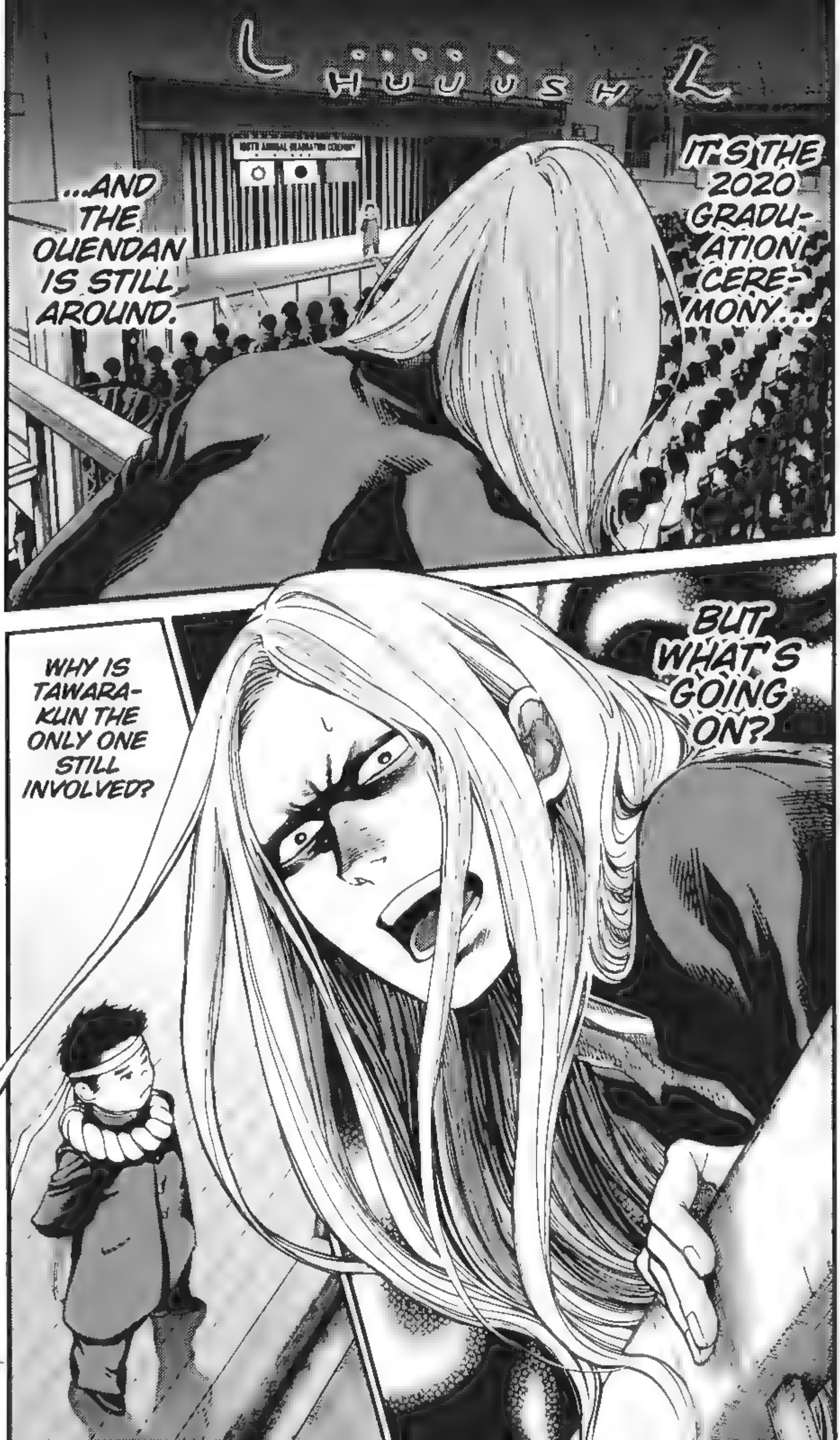
APPARENTLY, ALL OUR OLYMPIC TEAMS WANT THEIR HELP...

YOU DIDN'T QUIT...

YOU KEPT CHEER-ING.

TAWARA-KUN!

130.
NINE YEARS LATER


...AND THE OUENDAN IS STILL AROUND.
IT'S THE 2020 GRADU-ATION CERE-MONY...
WHY IS TAWARA-KUN THE ONLY ONE STILL INVOLVED?
BUT WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHO'S THAT BLOND FOREIGNER?

HE CAN PLAY TAIKO DRUMS?

KATUNK

HUH?

HRRGH

WHOA!

RAKKI SUGA?!

TAK TAK TAK

OH ...

OH MY GOD ...

TWISH

OKA!

MAE-SAN ...?

SUM-MER-HIKO!

OSU!

OSU!

GRADU-ATES!

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY STUDENT WHO WASN'T IN THE OUENDAN YELL THAT LOUD.

ARE YOU KID-DING ME?

WHY ARE THEY STILL DOING THIS IF THEY'RE ALUMNI?

DA DUM

THERE'S NO SCHOOL OUEN-DAN?

BUT ...

IT'S BEEN NINE WHOLE YEARS...

...BUT THEY'RE ALL STILL CHEER-ING.

...PEOPLE WANT THEM TO CHEER.

AND NOT ONLY THAT...

WOO

!!

IT WASN'T ALL FOR NOTHING!

EVERY-THING WE DID BACK THEN...

BUT WHERE'S THE CAPTAIN, THOUGH?

YOUR CHEERING WAS SPLENDID, AS ALWAYS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
GOOD JOB OUT THERE!
DID THEY GET MARRIED OR SOMETHING?
HMMM...
NOT TO MENTION FUJIEDA AND SHIBATA

EVERYONE'S ALWAYS SO EXCITED TO HEAR THE DRUM BEAT OUENDAN CHEER.

WE HOPE TO HAVE YOU AGAIN AT THE ENTRANCE CERE-MONY!

TULATIONS GRADUATES!

LOVE

KOOSHWUMP

PHEW!

I'M BEAT.

YOU'VE GAINED WEIGHT, RAKKI SUGA.

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT?

ANYONE WOULD IF THEY HAD TO EAT ALL OUR LEFTOVER DUMPLINGS AND MANJUU EVERY DAY.

ISN'T IT ROUGH JUGGLING THE OUENDAN WITH YOUR FAMILY'S DUMPLING SHOP WHEN WE'VE HAD SO MUCH WORK LATELY?

WHY BOTH-ER?

SO, FOR NOW, I'M JUST GONNA DO BOTH.

NO ONE WILL TAKE OLD-FASHIONED OUENDAN LIKE OURS SERIOUSLY FOR LONG.

HEY, AS MUCH DEMAND FOR OUENDAN AS THERE IS NOW THANKS TO THE TOKYO OLYMPICS, IT'S NOT GONNA LAST.

OSU!

ALL FOUR OF US FULL MEMBERS PRACTICE EVERY DAY IN ADDITION TO OUR SIDE JOBS!

YOU THREE! JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE ONLY PART-TIMERS IS NO EXCUSE FOR HOW SLOW YOU WERE TODAY.

DEAD

THE OUENDAN DOESN'T PAY FOR MY GROCER-IES.

YEAH, I CAN'T QUIT MY VIDEO GAME COMPANY, EITHER.

THANKS, CHAN-KUMA.

HA HA HA HA!

I'LL ALWAYS FOLLOW YOU, CAP-TAIN!

FOR-EVER!

COLORED CONTACTS

WELL!

I WANT TO KEEP PLAYING WITH THE DRUM BEAT OUENDAN!

OH MY GOD, THE OUENDAN IS THEIR JOB NOW?!

THAT BLOND GUY WAS CHAN-KUMA?

WAIT,

WHAT?

IT HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN EASY, BUT EVERY-ONE FROM NINE YEARS AGO IS STILL CHEERING TOGETHER.

HUSH

HUSH

WE'D LIKE THE THREE OF YOU TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH US AS NEEDED.

YOU STILL HAVEN'T LOST IT.

IT'S SO AMAZING.

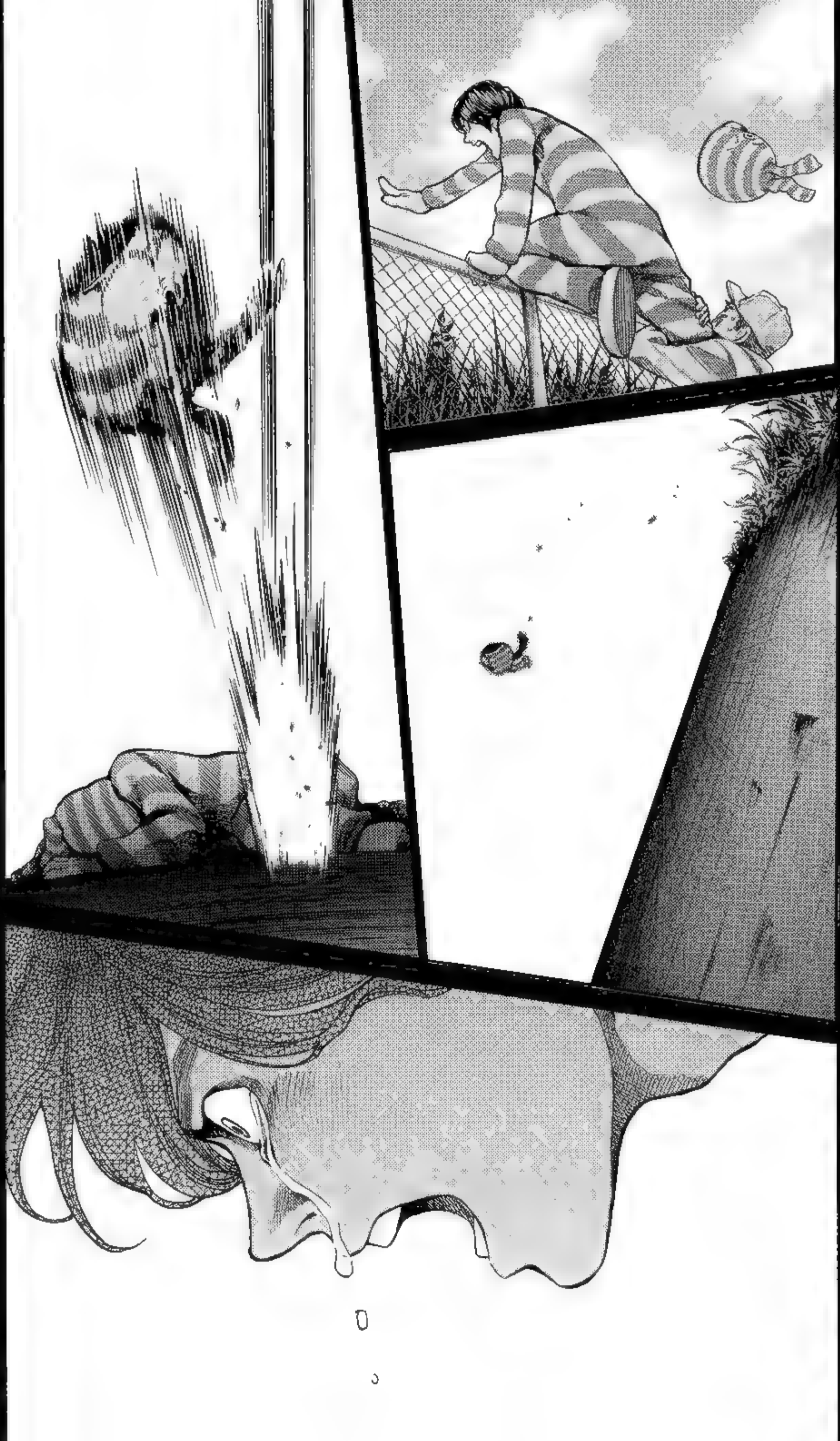
EVERYONE'S BEEN CHEERING FOR YOU ALL THESE YEARS.

OH, KIN-CHAN.

THE OUENDAN DID A GOOD JOB AGAIN THIS YEAR, HUH?

DID YOU SEE IT, KIN-CHAN?

131. ALONE AGAIN



YOU OKAY, CHAN-KUMA?

GASP

REMEM-BER IMA-MURA-KUN!

YEAH, I WAS! REMEM-BER THE CITY MARA-THON!

SHAKE

SHAKE

OH GOD, YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED NINE YEARS AGO AGAIN, WEREN'T YOU?

Then take em out

OH, IT'S JUST MY CONTACTS.

...THAT IMAMURA-KUN IS OUT THERE SOME-WHERE, WATCHING US.

I HAVE A FEEL-ING...

Y'KNOW,

THINK IF IMAMURA SAW US NINE YEARS LATER LIKE THIS.

I BET HE'D BE SO SURPRISED!

YOU'RE NOT MAKING SENSE, CHAN-KUMA.

YOU'RE TALKING LIKE I'M DEAD.

RLIDE!

...OUR LIVES WOULD'VE BEEN COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

IF IT WEREN'T FOR WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM..

ESPE-CIALLY-

YEAH, NINE YEARS AGO I NEVER WOULDVE SEEN US HERE.

HUFF

HUFF

HONEY!

HI!

SHI-BATA ?!

HONEY ?!

BABY ?!

I HAD TO STAY OUTSIDE WITH KIN-CHAN WHILE HE CRIED, SO I COULDN'T SEE YOUR SHOW.

SORRY!

HOW'D IT GO?

GASP

WHICH ONE OF THEM IS SHIBATA'S HUSBAND?

WHO IS IT?

SUMMER-HIKO?!

AHAHAHA! HE REALLY DOESN'T LIKE YOU.

BAAA

SAY HI TO PAPA!

SHIBATA-SAN TOOK WHAT HAPPENED AT THE MARATHON SO HARD SHE COULDN'T EVEN GO TO SCHOOL, AND SUMMERHIKO WAS THE ONE WHO SUPPORTED HER THROUGH IT.

IT MAKES SENSE.

WHAT ABOUT IMAMURA? I THOUGHT SHE LIKED HIM.

WHO COULD'VE SEEN THEM GETTING MARRIED?

SHIBATA HATED SUMMERHIKO SO MUCH WHEN THEY FIRST MET.

WHAT LED YOUR STORIED OUENDAN TO DO SUCH A FOOLISH THING?

How an Quendan Member Fell to Death at a Local Marathon

TODAY'S SPECIAL

THE KABOSU MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL OUENDAN'S RECKLESS-NESS GOT A STUDENT KILLED.

CLUSIVE INTERVIEW!
TAIN U-SAN SHARES HER THOUGHTS.

...WAS CARRY OUT MY ORDERS.

ALL HE DID ...

U-san, Captain of the Kabosu Minami High School Ouendan

AS CAPTAIN, I BEAR ALL RESPONSI-BILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENED.

WHY DID A MEMBER OF OUENDAN DIE?

YEAH, IT'S PRETTY OLD, ANY-WAY.

RUMOR IS THEY'RE GONNA TEAR DOWN THE WEST BUILDING AND REPLACE IT WITH AN APPLIANCE STORE.

AND THE OUENDAN'S CANCELED, FOR GOOD THIS TIME.

FOR REAL?

I HEARD USAMI DROPPED OUT!

THE CHEER-LEADING CLUB WILL SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL JUST FINE WITHOUT THE OUENDAN.

USAMI-SAN'S JUST A SORE LOSER.

HMPH

...

CLENCH

RAAA

LOOKING BACK, I THINK HIS DEATH WAS A TURNING POINT IN MY LIFE.

IF IT WEREN'T FOR HIM, NOT ONLY WOULD I HAVE NEVER MADE IT TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP, BUT I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE QUIT BASEBALL ENTIRELY.

SUZUKI, CHANGING TH

I WANTED TO WIN NO MATTER WHAT IT TOOK, FOR MY LATE FRIEND IMAMURA'S SAKE.

ith the help of his late friend,

THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO ASKED ME IF I REALLY WANTED TO BE JUST ANOTHER FEMALE TV STAR WHO MARRIED A PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL PLAYER, BUT WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER SINCE BEFORE I GOT THIS JOB!

RIGHT?

THAT'S AROUND WHEN MY WIFE TAMAKI AND I STARTED DATING. WE SUPPORTED EACH OTHER THROUGH A LOT.

TV host Abetama's SHOCKING MARRIAGE to Pitcher Suzuki!

CHAK

I CAN'T KEEP UP.

WHAAAT?

WHAT?

THAT WAS FAST.

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT ABETAMA MARRIED HIM AND WENT, TOO. SHE'S A TV HOST NOW.

SUZUKI'S LIVING IN THE U.S. THESE DAYS.

RECORDING WENT LATE, SO I COULDN'T SEE YOU GUYS CHEER.

SORRY I'M LATE!

AKI-CHAN!

HEY, FUJIEDA! I ONLY EVER SEE YOU ON TV THESE DAYS.

WOW, IT'S BEEN A YEAR.

EEEK!

REO-CHAN, YOUR BABY'S GROWN SO MUCH!

AND HAVE YOU LOST WEIGHT?

NOPE! NO GOING BACK, I GUESS.

I DON'T FIT INTO MY OLD CLOTHES AT ALL.

?!

HEY, MISTER! YOU'RE HER HUSBAND AND A DOCTOR, SO WHY DON'T YOU DO SOME-THING?

OH, BY THE WAY, DO YOU KNOW ANY GOOD HOSPITALS? IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GET A PHYSICAL.

WOW, A CELEBRITY PULLS NO PUNCHES, HUH?

FUJIEDA'S A CELEB-RITY?!

THAT'S WHEN IT HIT ME.

I SHOULD BECOME A POP IDOL.

...e said she wants to chee...
...the Tokyo Olympics.
...what inspired her to this decision?

THE OUENDAN FELL APART, AND MY FRIENDS WOULDN'T EVEN SMILE ANYMORE.

I DID A LOT OF THINKING AFTER IMAMURA DIED.

Akira Ueda, celebrity

TOGETHER, WE FORMED A POP GROUP, THE DO-AGAIN GIRLS.

DO-AGAIN GIRLS

SO, THERE WERE THREE OF US.

I GOT TOGETHER WITH CAPTAIN USAMI FROM THE OUENDAN, WHO HAD DROPPED OUT, AND MY FRIEND REO.

I KNEW I WOULDN'T BE A GOOD FIT FOR THE ENTER-TAINMENT WORLD.

I GOT MARRIED RIGHT OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL, ANYWAY.

HAHAHA AND NOW IT'S JUST A NICE MEM-ORY.

THEY TOLD US WE HAD TO DO A SHOW IN OUR UNDERWEAR TO GENER-ATE BUZZ, SO SHE HEADBUTTED THEM.

THAT'S 'CAUSE OUR BOSSES PICKED A FIGHT WITH CAPTAIN USAMI!

THOSE SONGS WERE SO BAD

Although I thought the LP

YOU GUYS DIDN'T LAST LONG, AND YOU SOLD WORSE THAN I EXPECTED, TOO.

RRRGH

SHE WAS TRYING TO PROTECT US!

I STILL WANT TO TRY AGAIN ...

BUT I WANTED TO DO IT WITH YOU GUYS!

UGH.

YOU'VE BEEN SELLING BETTER ON YOUR OWN THOUGH, RIGHT, AKI-CHAN?

COME ON.

IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE HAS A CLUE WHERE CAPTAIN USAMI IS OR WHAT SHE'S DOING.

GIVE IT UP AL-READY.

CAP-TAIN ...

YOU'RE MISS-ING AGAIN ...

..IN THIS WORLD, TOO, HUH?

ALL RIGHT.

LOOKS LIKE EVERY-ONE'S HERE.

NOW, LET'S GO VISIT IMAMURA!

?

RIGHT.

OH, YEAH.

HE MUST BE GETTING LONELY.

I'LL CHEER YOU ON

...AND I'M ALREADY DEAD.

IT'S ONLY 2020...

132.
STAND BY YOU

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND DIE? THERE WAS STILL SO MUCH STUFF WE WERE GONNA DO!

IMA-MURA, YOU IDIOT!

IMA-MURA-KUN... TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE.

YOU CAN CRY.

OH, AKI-CHAN ...

DROP THE ACT.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU GUYS WERE HIS FRIENDS.

KINICHIRO IMAMURA

FUNERAL AND WAKE

NO...

WHY HIM?

I'M SO SAD.

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO CRY WHEN THIS ALL JUST SEEMS LIKE SOME BAD JOKE?

KINICHIRO IMAMURA

KIN-CHAN WILL LAUGH AT YOU.

CHIN UP, SUZU-KI-KUN!

SOB

SOB

I WANT YOU TO TAKE HIM TO THE CHAMPION-SHIP!

I'LL BE THERE WITH A PICTURE OF HIM, AND WE'LL CHEER YOU ON.

NOW YOU'LL HAVE TO PLAY BASE-BALL FOR BOTH YOU AND KIN-CHAN!

WOOOO

LET'S TAKE IMAMURA TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP!

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THEY COULD BARELY WIN A SINGLE GAME, EVEN AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL, BUT THEY'VE CHANGED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.

KABOSU MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL IS HERE TO REPRESENT SAITAMA PREFECTURE FOR ONLY THE SECOND TIME IN 50 YEARS.

RAAA

GO TEAM!

GO TEAM!

GO TEAM!

HE PASSED AWAY AS THE RESULT OF A CHEERING ACCIDENT, AND THE OUENDAN CEASED TO EXIST FOR SOME TIME...

...BUT NOW, ITS FORMER MEMBERS HAVE REUNITED HERE TO CHEER ONCE AGAIN AT THE CHAMPION-SHIP.

DUM DA DUM

BOM

RAAH

RAAH

WORD IS THEY'VE BEEN PRACTICING ALONGSIDE ALUMNI FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.

WE HAVE TO WIN— FOR IMAMURA'S SAKE!

GO!

THEY'RE ALL CHEER-ING FOR YOU.

LOOK AT THEM.

DO YOU SEE THAT, KIN-CHAN? ISN'T IT GREAT?

RA AA AA' HH

I'LL CHEER YOU ON

FSH

GOD, IMAMURA. YOU'RE JUST GONNA WATCH FROM UP THERE, HUH?

SPRING 2020

HEY, IMA-MURA.

I'M HERE TO SEE YOU.

OH!

HIRO-KUN, IS THAT YOU?

WHAT?

CAN'T HEAR ME?

I'LL CHEER YOU ON

FH" SSSH"

I'LL CHEER

UH ...

ASS-HOLE.

GOOD LUCK LIVING OFF THOSE ROYAL-TIES!

THE NOVEL AND THE MOVIE WERE BOTH BIG HITS, AFTER ALL!

OH, I GET IT!

PAT

PAT

PAT

PAT

R-RIGHT ...

SO... HAVE YOU WRITTEN ANYTHING NEW SINCE THE LAST BOOK?

NO... I'VE GOT SOME IDEAS I'M WORK-ING ON, THO-UGH.

HI.

LONG TIME NO SEE.

IMA-MURA-SAN?

HI!

I MEAN, THE MOVIE DIDN'T DO THAT GREAT...

THE MIRACLE QUENDAN HIRO

A true story of hop

DEDICATED TO AN OLD FRIEND WHO DIED AT 5

I'M SO GRATE-FUL!

IT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU WROTE A BOOK ABOUT KIN-CHAN THAT THEY WENT AND BUILT THIS STATUE.

*APPROX. $12 USD

HIRO-KUN! THERE'S SOMEONE I SHOULD INTRO-DUCE YOU TO.

OH!

OH, YUMI!

HUMM?!

I DON'T MIND.

I'M JUST HAPPY THAT KIN-CHAN CAN LIVE ON IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS LIKE THIS.

AND I THINK YOU'VE MET MY MOM ALREADY.

I READ YOUR BOOK.

UH, HIRO-KUN, WAS IT?

NICE TO MEET YOU.

THIS IS MY HUSBAND, HIROKI-SAN.

...AND SHE ENDED UP LIKE THIS!

SHE TRIED SO HARD TO CHEER ME UP EVERY DAY...

AND SHE WAS WOR-RIED ABOUT ME.

BUT I WAS EVEN WORSE, LIKE A LIFE-LESS HUSK.

SHE COULD BARELY DO ANYTHING FOR A WHILE AFTER KIN-CHAN DIED.

RIGHT?

...

SHE SEEMS TO BE DOING WELL.

WHAT?! SO YOU DIDN'T WANT TO?

I had a black mark on my record, so to speak

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GET REMARRIED, THOUGH.

YEP.

HIROKI-SAN MET IMAMURA ONCE WHEN HE WAS CHEERING ON THE STREET...

SO,

WHERE ARE YOU LIVING NOW?

Y'KNOW, MAYBE I SHOULDN'T SAY THIS ...

HEHE, THAT'S TRUE.

IT JUST STRUCK ME HOW FATE CAN WORK IN ODD WAYS.

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!

...SO HE CAME TO THE FUNERAL, AND THAT'S HOW YOU GUYS MET, RIGHT?

OUR OLD PLACE GOT TORN DOWN.

WE LIVE WITH HIROKI-SAN IN HIS APART-MENT.

HEY.

HEY, HEY, HEY.

...

I'M RIGHT HERE.

...BUT WE'VE COME SO FAR...

...AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO KIN-CHAN.

HEY!

CAN'T YOU HEAR ME?

OH!

THERE SHE IS.

IMA-MURA-SAN!

AH!

AKI.

HIRO-KUN ...

I'LL CHEER YOU ON

YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN TO GIVE UP! WHAT, DO YOU WANNA BORROW MORE MONEY?

LET'S START OVER,

LIKE BEFORE THE DO-OVER.

YOU JERK!

THWACK!!

WAIT,

ARE THEY STILL DATING ON AND OFF?

SHE'S THE LAST RACKET HIRO-KUN HAS.

POOR AKI-CHAN.

YOU WORTH-LESS CREEP!

GAAH!

I LOVE YOU.

I'M NOT GOING TO PRETEND TO BE SOME-ONE I M NOT ANY-MORE.

BUT I M DOING THINGS OVER NOW

IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO HIDE MY RELATION-SHIP WITH MINORI

YOU WERE IN MY WAY.

SO MAYBE THEY'D MAKE A GOOD COUPLE, IN A WAY.

BUT THEN AGAIN, SHE'S LIKED HIM EVER SINCE HIGH SCHOOL, AND NOW HE'S FINALLY INTERESTED.

OH, KIN-CHAN.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

NUH-UH!

HEY!

HE'D TELL US HOW GLAD HE IS THAT HE COULD HELP US FIND HAPPINESS.

YEAH. I THINK SO, TOO.

I WONDER WHAT IMAMURA-KUN WOULD SAY IF HE WERE ALIVE TO SEE ALL THIS.

BWA HA HA HA...

YOU MAY BE GONE, BUT WE'RE ALL LIVING OUR BEST LIVES.

SO DON'T WORRY.

OKAY, KIN-CHAN?

ISN'T THAT A RELIEF?

QUIT PUTTING WORDS IN MY MOUTH!

HOLD UP!

EH-AGH!

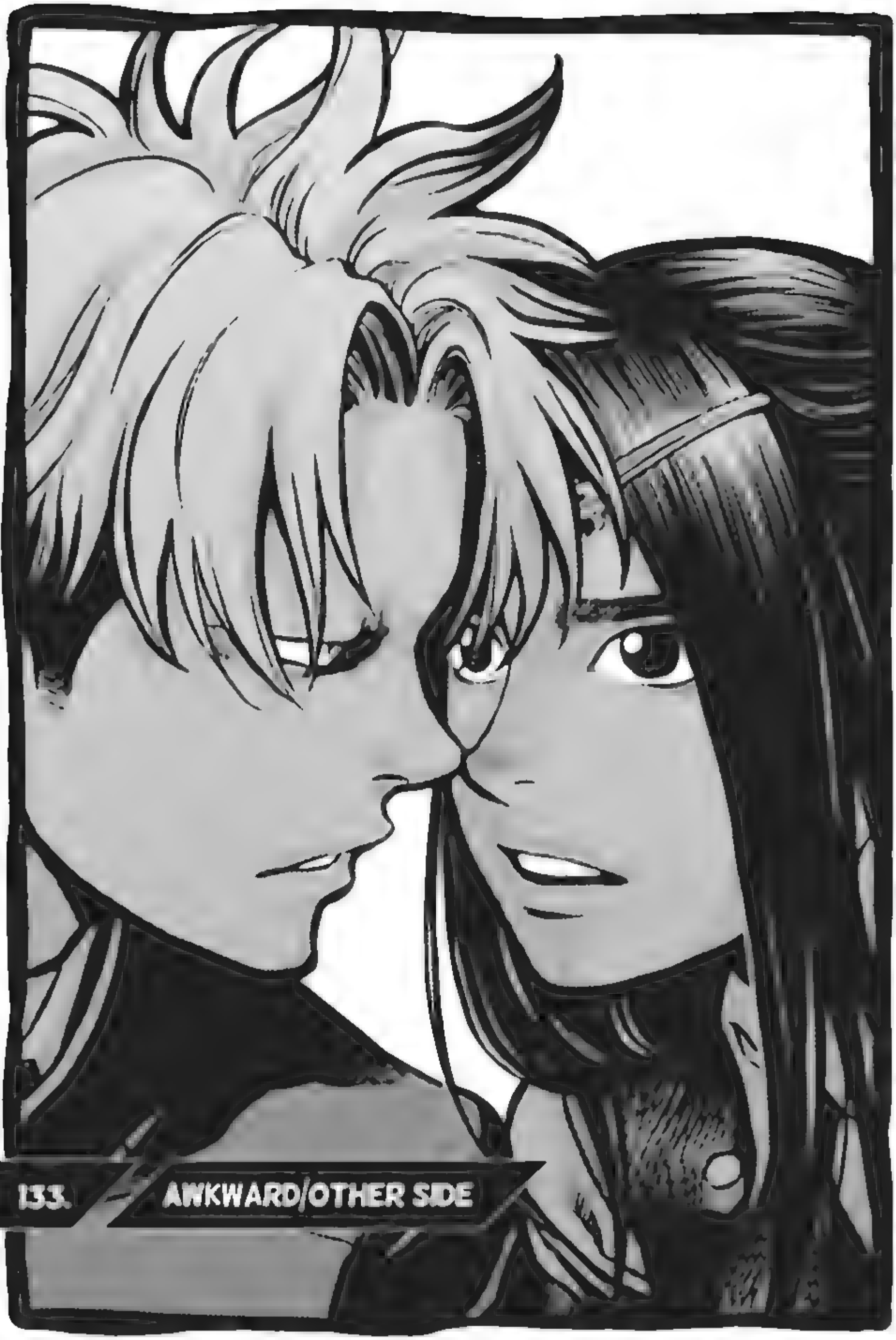
HEY, HIRO-KUN!

"!" SMACK

YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST USE ME TO MAKE MONEY LIKE THAT?

"!" SMACK

THOSE ARE *MY* ROYAL-TIES, ASSHOLE!


133. AWKWARD/OTHER SIDE

GRAND-MA, IT'S ME!
RAKKI SUGA!
HEY!
SMACK
SMACK
HEY, CHAN-KUMA!
COME ON!
FUJI-EDA!
OVER HERE!
NOSHWUP
NOSHWUP
PAT
PAT
NONE OF THEM CAN SEE ME!
IT'S NO USE.
HE HAS THE SAME MEAN LOOK IN HIS EYES.
IT'S LIKE HE'S BEEN REBORN. ♥
PHOOO~
OH, KIN-CHAN!
HEHE ...
OKAY! ♥
HEY, REO-CHAN. LET ME HOLD KIN-CHAN! ♥

YOU WERE JUST TALKING LIKE I WAS WATCHING OVER YOU FROM UP IN HEAVEN! MAKE UP YOUR DAMN MIND!

I MEAN, I'M RIGHT HERE! I'M NOT A STATUE, AND I'M NOT YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL!

WAIT!

NO, NO, NO! NOT ONLY AM I DEAD, BUT NOW YOU BELIEVE IN REINCAR-NATION?! WHAT?!

I'M NOT CHEER-ING AT THE TOKYO OLYM-PICS!

YOU!!

THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT UNTIL THE TOKYO OLYMPICS.

LET'S GO PRACTICE OUR CHEERS!

ALL RIGHT!

CLENCH

REMEMBER, IMAMURA WILL BE RIGHT THERE CHEERING WITH US!

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME FOR YOU TO STOP DOING THINGS "FOR MY SAKE" AND START DOING THEM FOR YOURSELVES? I'M RIGHT HERE, Y'KNOW!

BUT STILL!

I MEAN, I KNOW IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD ON YOU GUYS. I GET THAT.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, USING MY DEATH FOR YOUR OWN SUCCESS?

HEY!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET OVER ME SO EASILY!

.... THINK ABOUT HOW I'D FEEL!

TRY AND ...

BA L''

PUMP''

...

ME, TOO.

LOOK-ING BACK ...

I'VE STARTED THINKING IT WAS JUST OUR IMAGI-NATION...

...BUT IT NEVER WORKS.

I'VE TRIED THROWING MYSELF DOWN THE STAIRS MORE THAN ONCE...

WELL,

HIRO-KUN ...

DO YOU STILL THINK THE DO-OVER WAS REAL?

THAT IMAMURA MADE IT UP...

...AND WE LET OURSELVES GET STRUNG ALONG BY HIS FANTASIES.

YEAH ...

THAT'S HOW I'VE FELT LATELY, TOO.

LAST I SAW USAMI ...

IT WAS WHEN OUR POP GROUP BROKE UP.

THAT WAS YEARS AGO NOW.

SHE SAID, "I DON'T BELIEVE IMAMURA'S DEAD."

"HE MUST BE ALIVE IN SOME OTHER DO-OVER WORLD."

HNKSSSSSHH

AAAA

"I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR HIM,"

AND THEN SHE LEFT.

YEAH ...

LET'S GO, AKI.

SHE NEVER DID KNOW WHEN TO GIVE UP, AND ALWAYS HAD HER HEAD IN THE CLOUDS.

SHE'S PROBABLY FORGOTTEN BY NOW.

I'VE GOT TO FIND HER.

CAPTAIN USAMI.

CAP-TAAAIN!

DASH

THAT'S WHEN I STARTED LOOKING FOR HER.

RAAAH

RAAAH

RAAAH

I SEARCHED FOR YEARS, BUT I NEVER FOUND HER.

I HAD A FEELING SHE MIGHT SHOW UP ON GRADUATION DAY.

SO I WAITED FOR HER. YEAR AFTER YEAR AFTER YEAR.

I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET ANOTHER DO-OVER IF I JUMPED FROM A HEIGHT. I TRIED THROWING MYSELF FROM THE TOP OF THE STAIRS—AMONG OTHER PLACES—BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.

FYOOO

YEARS BECAME DECADES. DECADES BECAME CENTURIES.

AAUH...

CAP-TAIN!

CAP-TAIN ...

UNH...

ゴォォォ

FWOOOO

AND EVENTUALLY, I LOST TRACK OF TIME.

SHWUMP

IMAMURA.

IMAMURA. DON'T GIVE UP.

WE CAN STILL TURN THINGS AROUND.—

YOU CAN DO IT, IMAMURA!

NO.

NOTHING GOOD CV

NO.

AGGGL...

iON HELL

YOU THINK I'M READY TO DIE?

YOU CAN DO IT!

Pitch!

IMA-MURA-KUN!

IMA-MURA-KUUUN!

THAT MASCOT FELL!

HEY, ARE YOU OKAY? SAY SOME-THING!

134. A SIMPLE CHEER

IMA-MURA-KUUUN!

SAY SOME-THING!

IMA-MURA-KUN!

SOME-ONE CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!

OH GOD LOOK!

!!! CHATTER ?

ARE YOU OKAY?

MO CHATTER.

HEEEY!

JUST A LITTLE FURTHER

ANY-

ARE YOU HURT?

SMACK

HE'S CLIMB-ING UP!

OKAY, PULL!

IMA-MURA-KUN!

TUG

...WHAT YEAR IS IT?

HUH?

THAT'S NOT GOOD. YOU BETTER LIE DOWN.

YOU CAN...

...SEE ME?

WHERE DOES IT HURT?

WAAA

WAAA

I'M CALLING AN AMBU-LANCE.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

WE'RE AT THE KABOSU CITY MARATHON. YOU WERE HORSING AROUND AND FELL FROM UP HIGH, BUT SOMEHOW, YOU MADE IT.

IT'S JUNE 2011.

KABOSU CITY

YOU SEEM OUT OF IT.

LISTEN.

WAAAGH!

ガシッ

ぽよ～ん

THAT MASCOT STARTED HUGGING PEOPLE OUT OF NO-WHERE!

L-

LET ME GO!

HUG

HUG

GAH!

HRK!

AGH!

WHAT?

HUG

WAGH!

NOW HE'S RUN-NING!

IS HE LOOKING FOR SOME-THING?

GASUE

HM?

GASUE

IT DID LOOK LIKE HE LANDED ON HIS HEAD ...

WAAA

EEEK!

WAAA

IMA-MURA-KUN?

THIS IS WEIRD.

IMA-MURA-KUN!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TMP

TMP

TMP

LEAP

PANT

PANT

I CAN FEEL MY LUNGS ACHING, MY SWEAT DRIPPING, MY THROAT GETTING DRY...

I'D FORGOT-TEN THESE SENSA-TIONS.

AND I'M HERE.

I KNOW THIS PLACE, THIS TIME.

I NEED TO SEE HER.

THE FLOW OF RUNNERS DID STOP SUDDEN-LY.

I HOPE THEY'RE ALL RIGHT.

HUH? DID SOMEONE PASS OUT?

WEEE

WOOO

JUDGING BY HIS HEIGHT, I'D SAY IMAMURA.

OR IMA-MURA?

IS THAT CHAN-KUMA?

WHAT'S HE DOING?

OH, GOD.

WHAT DID YOU COME ALL THE WAY HERE FOR?

WHERE'S CHAN-KUMA?

IMA-MURA-KUN! SHOULDN'T YOU BE CHEERING AT THE SECOND CHECK-POINT?

...

WAGH!

WHEEZE! PANT

PANT

HE'S FILTHY!

HOW'D HE GET COVERED IN DIRT?

GET BACK TO CHEERING, YOU ASSHOLE!

SMACK

ROLL ROLL ROLL

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, IMAMURA-KUN?

...

THAT'S STILL NOT OKAY! WE'D BE IN TROUBLE IF SOMEONE SAW YOU.

I MEAN, TECHNICALLY I HIT HIS MASK.

YOU CAN'T HIT HIM!

SUGA-SENPAI!

DON'T GIVE UP!!

KANAN

VICTORY

HIT ME AGAIN ...

WHY ARE YOU CRY-ING?

HUH?

YOU DON'T THINK YOU'D BE BETTER OFF IF I WAS DEAD, RIGHT?

YOU NEED ME, RIGHT?

I'M REALLY ALIVE, RIGHT?

THIS ISN'T A DREAM, IS IT?

HIT ME HARDER!

WE'D ALL BE DEVAS-TATED IF YOU DIED RIGHT NOW!

DUMB-ASS!

WHY THE HELL WOULD I BE BETTER OFF IF YOU WERE DEAD ?!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED IN SUCH A SHORT TIME...

WHO KNOWS?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH IMAMURA? WHY IS HE ACTING SO UNSTABLE?

WAAA

IMA-MURA!

HAVE YOU BEEN HERE CHEER-ING?

OH!

ブ"WAVE

ブ"WAVE

ブ"WAVE

KANAN

HEY, IT'S A RUN-NER!

YOU'RE GONNA BE A PRO ONE DAY!

PROMISE YOU WON'T QUIT BASE-BALL!

SUZUKI! I KNOW YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THE MAJOR LEAGUE!

がしっ GLOMP

I'VE NEVER THOUGHT THAT FAR AHEAD.

I MEAN, THE MAJOR LEAGUE?

WHERE IS THIS COMING FROM?

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD MAKE IT. HAHA.

...BUT I WANT YOU TO TRY YOUR BEST, EVEN THOUGH I'M ALIVE!

MAYBE YOU CAN'T GIVE IT YOUR ALL IF I DON'T DIE...

PLEASE!

...

THIS ISN'T HOW YOU USUALLY CHEER ME ON, IMAMURA.

CAPTAIN USAMI ...

WHERE IS SHE?

IMA-MURA ?!

135. RESURRECTION OF THE BLOND WOLF

WHAT'S GOING ON? PEOPLE JUST STOPPED SHOWING UP.

REAL-LY?

CHATTER

APPARENTLY, THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT EARLIER ON THE TRACK.

CHATTER

THAT'S WHAT I'M TOLD. STILL NO DETAILS, THOUGH.

CHATTER

CHATTER

AAAGH...

I'M TIRED

HUUUSH

...

HEY, NO BREAKS! WE'RE GONNA KEEP CHEER-ING!

OSU!

I KNOW IT'S NOT A GREAT THING TO SAY, BUT.

ME, TOO ...

I WAS SORT OF TAKEN ABACK EARLIER.

YKNOW

OSU CITY MARATHON

HOORAY!

YOU CAN DO IT!

RAH

I DON'T THINK ...

YEAH

...ANY-ONE BOTH-ERED WATCH-ING US

IT'S LIKE WE HAVEN'T BEEN CHEERING AT ALL...

NOT YET, ANY-WAY ..

FOOLS!

THE OUENDAN ISN'T SOME POP GROUP!

DON'T TREAT IT LIKE ONE!

MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T HAVE DRESSED LIKE THIS, AFTER ALL.

LOOK AT THESE ADOR-ABLE OUTFITS WE MADE!

BUT COME ON!

YOU CAN'T EXPECT PEOPLE TO ADMIRE THE OUENDAN IN A WORLD LIKE OURS!

HEY! DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN! THIS IS NOTH-ING!

DO YOU GIVE UP? ARE YOU GOING TO QUIT BECAUSE NO ONE'S FAWNING OVER YOU?

GRRRR...

WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE, FUJIEDA?

YOU HAVE TO QUIT RUN-NING!

FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SAN-ITY,

GROAR

BUT NOW THINGS AREN'T GOING YOUR WAY, SO YOU WANT TO QUIT. WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NEXT, HUH?

AND YOU JOINED THE OUENDAN BECAUSE YOU WERE UPSET,

SO, HIRO-KUN DUMPED YOU,

UNH... UUUNH...

HEY!

SHWING

HERE COMES A RUNNER!

KABOSU CITY MARATHON

OSU!

ALL RIGHT, TAKE YOUR POSITIONS AND GET READY TO CHEER!

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

HUH ...?

IS THAT ...

...IMA-MURA?

C-

CAP-
TAA-
AIN!

HUH ?!

WHAT ?!

WATER STATION

DASH

RUN!

CLAT

CLAT

CLAT

CLAT

HEY!

IMAMURA, YOU'RE KIND OF FREAKING US OUT!

NOOOOO!

HUH?

WAAAAAGH

ROLL

ROLL

ROLL...

PANT

PANT

PANT

PANT

PANT

PANT

CAPTAIN ...

I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH.

FLIP

THE MWAH

NGH...

NNNGH!

WAIT

FLAIL

FLAIL

MAMI

ZOOOO!

HANG ON A-

CAP-TAIN.

SHWIP

OPEN YOUR EYES. LOOK AT ME.

REO-CHAN'S DYING!

STOP IT, IMA-MURA!

GAAAAAH!

HE'S ASSAULT-ING THAT GIRL!

HEY! STOP!

WAAAAA

WAAAAA

WHAT ARE YOU...

H-

HUH?!

Hair white from shock

GOD!

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND MARRY SUMMER-HIKO?

I THOUGHT YOU LIKED *ME*, SHIBATA!

COME ON!

DIDN'T YOU WANT TO BE A WORLDLY, GLOBAL-THINKING WOMAN?

?!

REO-CHAN ?!

I LOVE YOU, IMA-MURA-KUN!

WHAT HAP-PENED ?!

IMA-MURA'S ACTING WEIRD!

WAKE UP, YOU GUYS!

WHAT THE HELL?

WHAT NOW?

WH-

SLINK...

EVERYONE'S GONNA LOVE YOU.
YOU'RE CUTE.

I WANT TO WRECK THE FUTURE.

HIRO-KUN'S NOT THE ONLY FISH IN THE SEA.

OKAY, FUJI-EDA?

LLLL

THANK YOU FOR CHEERING ME ON SO MUCH!

2014.4.14
久保ミツロウ☆

Mitsurou Kubo ☆

April 14, 2014

☆ My Editors: Suzuki-san,
Takigawa-san, Zenzai-san, Ebitani-san

☆ Research Partners: Saitama
Prefectural Fudooka High School
Nagasaki Prefectural Sasebo
Minami High School

☆ My Agent: Hiromi Sakitani
Kuboken Staff: Ema Yamanouchi

☆ My Assistants: Shunsuke Ono,
Youko Mikuni, Hiromu Kitano
Koushi Tezuka, Kouhei Mihara
Rana Satou

136. SCREW A DO-OVER!

SUMMER 2011

DUM DA DUM

HIT IT OUTTA THE PARK!

DUM DA DUM

THE 3RD SCHOOL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

YOMIKIRI NEWS

RAAAH...

AND THERE'S THE GAME!

FWOOSH

THUNK

AAGH...

SHUT UP!

GUUUH

HUUUSH

...

THIS SUCKS! AND IT'S ALL IMAMURA'S FAULT!

GOD, AND NOT ONLY DID YOU GET INJURED, BUT THE OUENDAN HAD TO GO ON HIATUS BECAUSE OF THEIR LITTLE SCANDAL!

WE MIGHT'VE WON TODAY IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO FALL DOWN AND GET YOURSELF INJURED AT THE MARATHON THE OTHER DAY!

I-I'M SORRY.

YOU BETTER RECOVER AND GET BACK TO PLAYING BASEBALL.

SUZUKI...

RAAAH

RAAAH

RAAAH

ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE I'LL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO CHEER FOR YOU, SINCE TODAY'S MY LAST DAY IN THE CHEERLEADING CLUB.

RAAAH

RAAAH

I WISH I COULD'VE SEEN YOU WIN AT LEAST ONCE.

ABE-TAMA.

THANKS FOR CHEERING ME ON UNTIL THE END.

SQUEEZE

BUT...I SORT OF FELT LIKE IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME FOR A MOMENT THERE, TOO...

"UNTIL THE END"? PLEASE! IT'S BEEN A WHOLE TRIMESTER, BIG DEAL.

WAGH! I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY!

KNOW YOUR PLACE, SCUM!

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

MAYBE HE'S RUBBING OFF ON ME. HAHAHA!

I'VE FELT DIFFERENT SINCE I SAW IMAMURA ACTING LIKE *THAT* AT THE MARATHON...

YEAH, I WONDER WHAT GOT INTO US.

OH, IMA-MURA ...

I WONDER IF THE OUENDAN WILL EVER COME BACK...

MREEE

MREEE

MREE

MREE

MREEE

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU TO PAY ATTENTION DURING CLASS?!

BWUUUUUH

HEY! IMA-MURA!

!!"

WHAM

BAP

BAP

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LEARN, THEN GO HOME!

REO-CHAN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HIM?

IMA-MURA-KUN ...

GUESS I'M GOING HOME.

YEAH ...

BUT THEN A FEW DAYS LATER, HE WAS BACK TO HIS APATHETIC OLD SELF.

I MEAN, HE WENT WILD AFTER HIS FALL AT THE MARATHON.

OUENDAN
OUENDAN MEMBERS DO NOT ENTER
BAM
CUTTING CLASS AGAIN, ARE WE, IMAMURA?
I FEEL YOU.
SAME HERE.
YOU THINK I CAN STAND TO REPEAT CLASSES I'VE ALREADY TAKEN BEFORE THE DO-OVER?
WELL, DUH.
I DON'T THINK YOU EVER GO TO CLASS.
SO ARE YOU, RIGHT?
HMM...
...DESPITE HOW DESPERATE I GOT IN THE FUTURE.
I WAS BACK TO MY COMPLACENT ROUTINE IN SECONDS...
...BUT THAT WASN'T CONCRETE ENOUGH TO SUSTAIN ME FOR LONG.
BACK AT THE MARA-THON, I WAS SO INTENT ON "WRECKING THE FUTURE" OR WHAT-EVER...

YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HANDLE THE TRUTH, SO JUST QUIT WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD.

I KNOW I'VE ASKED YOU BEFORE.

TELL ME EVERY-THING THAT'S GONNA HAPPEN.

PLE-ASE!

TELL ME!

HEY!

I'M NOT THAT DELI-CATE!

OKAY.

LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAM-PLE.

THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO MAKE SOME MONEY!

IF YOU WENT TO THE FUTURE, AND NOW YOU'RE DOING 2011 OVER AGAIN...

SO, IMA-MURA,

SURE.

WHY NOT?

DO YOU THINK, KNOW-ING THAT, YOU'D BE ABLE TO WRITE THE SAME NOVEL AS IF I *HADN'T* TOLD YOU?

SAY I TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE GOING TO WRITE A SUCCESSFUL NOVEL.

SOMETIMES, KNOWING WHAT WILL HAPPEN CAN KEEP YOU FROM DOING YOUR BEST.

KNOWING THE FUTURE IS NO GUARANTEE THINGS WILL PLAY OUT THE SAME WAY THEY DID.

THAT STILL DOESN'T MEAN HE'S GOING TO PUT IN THE WORK IT TAKES TO ACTUALLY DO IT.

OR, SAY SUZUKI KNEW HE COULD MAKE IT TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPION-SHIP.

AND I'VE REALIZED SOMETHING: THEY'RE ABLE TO DO IT BECAUSE THEY *CAN'T* SEE WHERE IT WILL TAKE THEM.

PEOPLE DO A LOT OF WILD THINGS.

BUT IF YOU TOLD THEM IN ADVANCE HOW MANY DECADES IT WOULD TAKE OR THAT ALL THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR WOULD BE DESTROYED IN WAR, I DON'T THINK THEY COULD'VE PULLED IT OFF.

WAY BACK HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, PEOPLE BUILT ENORMOUS CASTLES AND ELABORATE WORKS OF ART, RIGHT?

IT'S WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW THE FUTURE...

...THAT YOU'RE AT YOUR STRONG-EST.

I'm sort of working on becoming a doctor.

UH...

WILL YOU JOIN ME, SUMMER-HIKO?

I WANT TO START AN OUENDAN-THEMED STAND-UP ACT.

I'VE HAD THIS IDEA FOR A WHILE NOW.

HEY.

WE'LL WORK OUT A STRATEGY AFTER SCHOOL!

ALL RIGHT!

LEAP!

IT'S PRETTY MEAN OF HIM TO KISS ME AND ACT LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED.

FWOO~

I WONDER HOW IMAMURA-KUN REALLY FEELS ABOUT ME.

I THINK YOU'RE CUTE.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE YOU AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY.

YOU'VE BEEN DOING WELL LATELY, SO MAYBE WE SHOULD GO ON VACATION SOMEWHERE.

MREEE

MREEEEEE

LET'S HEAD DOWN TO THE HOS-PITAL.

OKAY, MOM!

THE OUENDAN'S BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO RESUME ACTIVITIES!

ALL RIGHT! I'M GONNA RESTORE THE OUENDAN AND IMAMURA TO THEIR FULL POTEN-TIAL!

JUST WATCH ME!

SO, IMAMURA, HAVE YOU DECIDED ABOUT THE OUENDAN?

ARE YOU QUIT-TING?

YEAH ...

I MEAN, IT'S LIKE I TOLD YOU.

A GUY LIKE ME'S GOT NOTHING ON PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THE FUTURE.

LO-SER.

?!

GOD.

SO, BASICALLY, YOU'RE BACK TO HOW YOU WERE BEFORE THE DO-OVER.

IF YOU DON'T WANNA DO ANYTHING, YOU SHOULD JUST GO BACK TO OUR OLD WORLD AND HIDE IN YOUR ROOM.

...I WAS STILL DOING MY BEST, EVEN IF I DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS TO SHOW FOR IT.

BACK IN OUR OLD WORLD, WHEN I WAS MY ORIGINAL SELF...

EVERYONE DIES.

EVERYONE FALLS APART.

EVEN ME...

I DIDN'T NEED A DO-OVER TO KNOW THAT.

BUT EITHER WAY, NOTHING LASTS FOREVER. IT'S THE SAME IN THIS WORLD, TOO.

IF I'D KEPT LIVING THAT LIFE, IT'S POSSIBLE I COULD'VE TURNED THAT INTO AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING COOL LATER ON.

WOW.

THE DO-OVER DIDN'T CHANGE

OH. THAT'S ONE THING ...

...WHICH WORLD IS THE RIGHT ONE?!

BUT THEN ...

I ALWAYS GO STRAIGHT TO IMAGINING THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO.

I WORKED SO HARD TO GET BACK HERE! WAS IT ALL FOR NOTHING?

...ALL SORTS OF COOL THINGS ARE HAPPENING, EVEN IF I DON'T KNOW IT.

BUT SOME-WHERE OUT THERE...

Heeey! Imamura! Heeey!

AND NO MATTER HOW LOST I GET, THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WILL ALWAYS COME LOOKING FOR ME.

IMA-MURA?

TMP

I'M SURE I'LL FORGET AGAIN SOON, BUT...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?

SORRY.

HEY.

I'M DOING IT ALL OVER AGAIN!

I'LL COME LOOKING FOR YOU, AGAIN AND AGAIN.

KIN-CHAAAN!

TIME TO GET UP!

YOU'VE GOTTA GO TO YOUR GRADU-ATION!

YOU WOULDN'T WANNA BE LATE, NOW WOULD YOU?

RIGHT ...

Friday, March 2014

HIRO-KUN,

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SATIVA PREFECTURE KAZUSA PONAMI HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY

OUENDAN

YOU'RE ...

FROM THIS MOR-NING ...

That's not Hiro-kun!

Wait ..

HEY, WAIT! QUIT TRYING TO RUN!

PER-VERRRT!

HEY ...

DID YOU FALL DOWN?

COME ON, ANSWER ME!

HEEEY!

TUNK TUNK TUNK TUNK

GAH!

GOD! WAIT UP!

I'M SO SORRY! ARE YOU OKAY?

WHOA!

SHAKE

SHAKE

OWW...

SNAP

FLIINCH

IS HE ALIVE?

FUJI- WHERE'S EDA! WA- MURA?

WAGH!

JOLT

...

UH... WHO ARE YOU?

HAVE WE MET?

JUST BE SURE NOT TO FALL DOWN THE STAIRS AGAIN.

I-

I CAN'T ASSOCIATE WITH YOU ANYMORE.

HUH?

I'll RISE

THANKS FOR CATCHING ME!

HELLO?

UHH ...

ARE YOU HURT?

WAIT, WHAT?

TMP

CAPTAIN!

YOU USED TO BE THE CAPTAIN OF THE OUENDAN, RIGHT? I REMEMBER YOU!

NO, STAY AWAY.

IT'LL HAPPEN AGAIN IF YOU ASSOCIATE WITH ME.

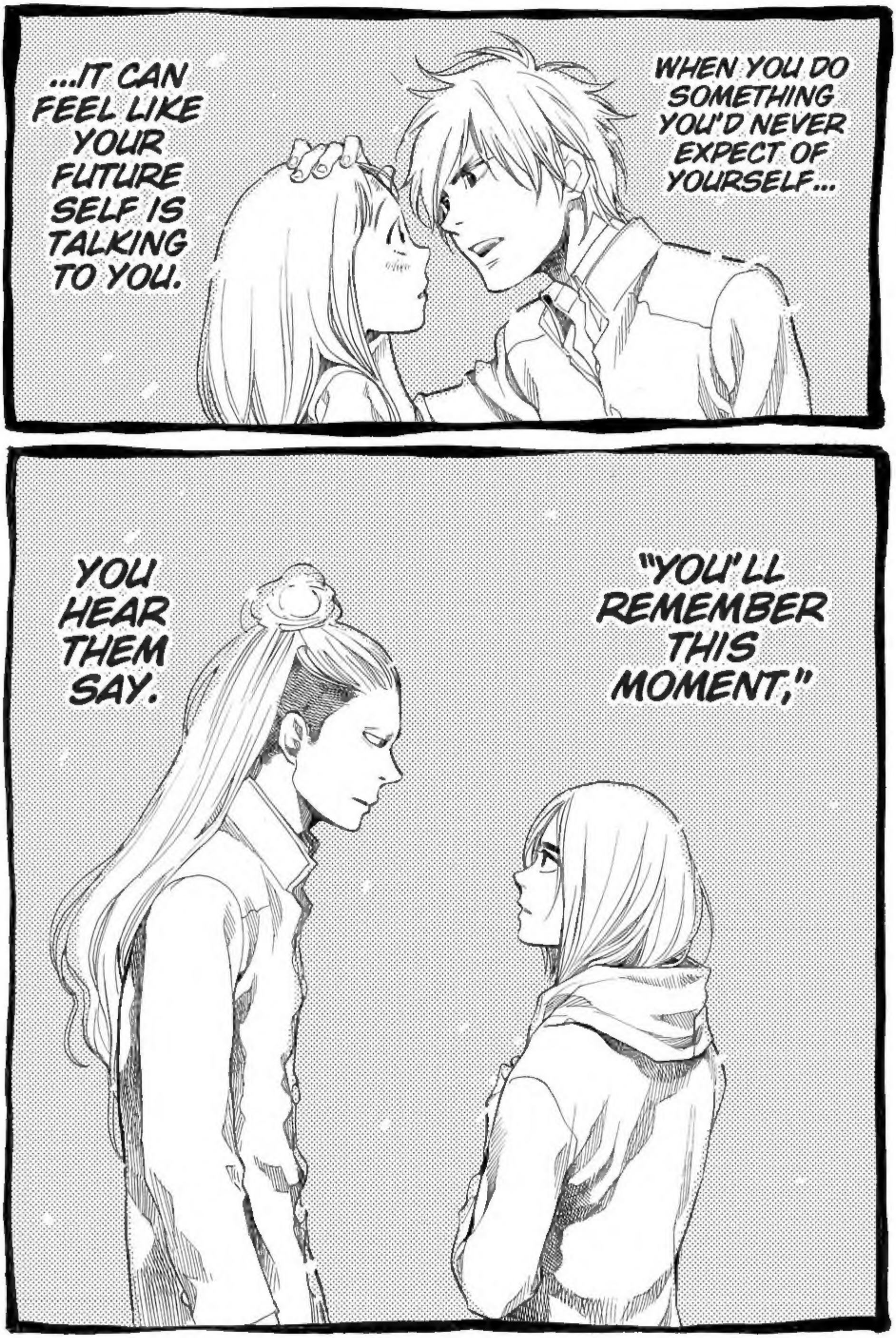
I'VE BEEN WONDER-ING ABOUT YOU FOR-EVER.

I WAS JUST TRYING TO GET INTO THE CLUB ROOM TO FIND A LEAD.

SLIDE ガラッ

AKI! WHAT WAS THAT YELL-ING?

?


...IT CAN FEEL LIKE YOUR FUTURE SELF IS TALKING TO YOU.
WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING YOU'D NEVER EXPECT OF YOURSELF...
YOU HEAR THEM SAY.
"YOU'LL REMEMBER THIS MOMENT,"

AGAIN!! - THE END

Again!! 12

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

Again!! volume 12 copyright © 2014 Mitsurou Kubo
English translation copyright © 2019 Mitsurou Kubo

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2014 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781646591701

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Rose Padgett
Lettering: E. K. Weaver
Editing: Tiff Ferentini
Kodansha Comics edition cover design by Phil Balsman